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- . . . A national reciprocity convention was held in Detroit, Mich., the second week in December, with delegates from many parts of the Union.
- . . . Germany has nominated Dr. Sievking as a member of the international court of arbitration, in the place of Dr. Binger, president of the Senate of the High Court.
- . . . The new treaty of friendship and general relations between the United States and Spain, which was signed at Madrid in July last, was rectified by the United States Senate on December 16.
- . . . The pension bill passed by the United States Senate on December 17 carries \$139,847,000.
- . . . The London Daily Mail, whose patriotism has never been suspected, calls the Venezuelan affair "the most inglorious episode in which Great Britain has engaged in recent years."
- . . . It is announced from Madrid that the arbitration treaty between Spain and Uruguay has been completed. This is one of the nine treaties between Spain and Spanish-American republics drafted at the close of the Pan-American Conference last winter.
- ... The London Express says that there is every prospect of a satisfactory conclusion of the negotiations between Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Delcassé for a settlement of outstanding differences between Great Britain and France, including the French Shore, New Caledonia and the Morocco questions. The negotiations are said also to include the subject of a general arbitration treaty.
- . . . Mr. Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross Society, has said that the twentieth century will be an age of arbitration. He is still living to see the fulfilment of his prophecy.
- the peace and arbitration societies of Milan, Turin, Perugia, Voghera, Missaglia, Barzano, Torre Pellice and Palermo, has just been sent to the Italian senators and deputies, asking that the Italian military service be reduced to one year, and that in place of the universal standing army discipline a citizen soldiery for defense only, with general military instruction, be substituted. Our Italian friends, of course, have something more than this in view when once the reform shall have been taken up by the government and parliament.
- . . . The government of San Domingo and the firm of J. Sala & Co., of New York, have agreed to arbitrate the claim of that firm for \$215,000 for supplies furnished to the late President Hereaux of San Domingo. The firm has selected as arbitrators Mr. Frederick Van Dyne, assistant solicitor in the United States State Department, and the government of San Domingo the Bolivian Minister at Washington.
- . . . Hon. Henry B. Metcalf of Rhode Island, in a letter to the Pawtucket Evening Times on possible results of the present Venezuelan imbroglio, says: "The possibilities of our war-makers are not yet exhausted, for the new experience will make opportunity for an enlarged navy and sundry profitable contracts incident thereto, while the toilers of the country will pay the cost and will be expected to shout 'prosperity.'"

- . . . The New York Sun says that "to declare the Hague Court out of business at this early stage of its existence would seem a somewhat rougher proceeding than is necessary."
- . . . An international customs congress, in which nearly all the nations of the Western world will take part, is to assemble in New York on the 15th inst. This congress is the outcome of the work of the Pan-American Congress last winter.
- . . . In an address at Cooper Union, New York, on the 21st ult., Dr. Schurman said that in his talk with President McKinley, at the time of his appointment to the first Philippine commission, he learned that the President had acted with the intention of giving independence to the Filipinos as well as to the Cubans.

Correspondence.

Histories with Less War in Them.

DEAR DR. TRUEBLOOD:

Since the publication of my article in the last issue of the Advocate of Peace, a friend has called my attention to Professor Edward Channing's History of the United States, which fulfills in an eminent and delightful degree the character of history presented in my article.

This pleases me so much that I desire to commend the book to both teachers and students of United States history. By reading his preface it will be seen that he indicates the lines of study presented in my article. Here are his words: "The great success of the American people has been won in the fields of peace, not in those of war." Not a single picture of a battle either on sea or land is to be found in the book. The pictures of civilians are much more numerous than those of warriors. The great body of the book is given to civil growth and development rather than to the doings of war. It is a book to help on the arts of peace rather than those of war.

Had I known of such a book when that article was written, it would have been very different. It would have been a comparison or rather contrast of its contents with those of the five books named.

One thing, however, about the book is to be regretted; its size and profundity will, I fear, prevent its use by younger students. A remedy may be found if the friends of peace will urge the author to prepare a more elementary work of the same character and spirit for the use of younger pupils.

Now, lest somebody may discount all these statements from the suspicion that I have an interest in some way in the sale of the book, let me say that I have no knowledge of the author other than as revealed in the book and no knowledge of the publishers except their name, Macmillan & Company, New York City. The reader, therefore, will please not allow such suspicion to prevent him from looking up the book and encouraging its use, if he loves peace better than war. I have but one interest in the book and but one purpose in this discussion, namely, peace and good citizenship.

GEORGE W. Hoss,

WICHITA, KAN,